

Hello. We are David and Stacy and we have been blessed not once but twice with our adopted frozen embryos, Frank and Lucy. After 5 years of failed infertility treatments, we were overjoyed to learn about the Snowflakes Embryo Adoption program that allowed us to adopt our children right from the beginning. We could be pregnant, have ultrasounds, child birth, and bond with our child right from the first kick.

It has been an amazing experience. We just shared our first Halloween with two kids. If anyone asked my 2 ½ year old Frank what he was going to be for Halloween, he proudly stated that he was a maniac driver. See, a few months ago he overheard me saying that the UPS driver drove like a maniac through our neighborhood. From then on whenever he spotted a UPS truck, he'd yell, "Look mom, a maniac driver." While scrolling through various Halloween costumes this September, he was so excited to spot a little toddler UPS costume and had to have it. While most 3 year olds were running around as cowboys and spidermans, Frank was thrilled in his brown UPS uniform, hat and parcel. He proudly told everyone, 'I am a maniac!' This is just one of the miraculous, hilarious things that happen everyday in our house since we were able to have our children. Lucy just rolled over for the first time last week as the three of us sat around cheering her on.

That's why I have such a hard time talking at functions like this. About our kids. About hearing about these left-over disgarded frozen embryos that would better serve humanity as a science experiment. These are our children, these are Frank and Lucy.

I fully understand our desire to cure diseases. When we faced years of infertility treatments, we looked to science to cure our disease and provide us with our life long dream of children and a family. I understand that pain,

I understand wanting a cure. I don't understand why all this money and attention is being thrown into this unproven, questionable science of embryonic stem cell research when adult stem cells have proven successful in 73 uses and cures. Embryonic stem cell research has no results, no cures, only empty promises. Why not throw all this money and attention and excitement into the science that does provide real results and doesn't cost us our human dignity. Do these scientists truly believe my Frank could have better served humanity ~~cloned~~, dissected, destroyed and ultimately injected into someone's spine? He could spend his life purpose as some regenerated cells riding around in someone's back rather than running around our house singing his ABC's? Ofcourse that's hard to say when he's sitting here in front of us but what are we saying about those embryos not yet adopted?

~~This bill also talks about toughing up penalties for cloning ~~these~~ human embryos but still allows for ^{clones} ~~them~~ to be bought elsewhere. Isn't this just encouraging other states to clone the embryos—saying if you'll clone them, we'll buy them? Either human cloning is wrong or it isn't and make no mistake this is human cloning.~~

This bill ~~also~~ suggests these left-over embryos have no other alternative, they are going to be thrown away but that's not true. Embryo Adoption is growing and growing. Each year more families sign up to adopt out their embryos and many families are waiting for them on a waiting list. Each time we adopted we waited months before our number was up and we were chosen by a family. There is not a shortage of people wanting to give these children a home. There is just a shortage of attention and awareness. When I tell people our children were adopted as embryos—everyone is so surprised, saying they never heard of that. But if I mention embryonic stem cell research, everyone has heard all the hoopla. Why are they only hearing

about this one option? The more people learn about embryo adoption the more it grows. We are nearing 200 babies born and thousands of embryos adopted. These 200 babies are important. They are a voice for the thousands of children whose fate is on the table today. These embryos are not disposable, not spare parts for research, they are Frank and Lucy and they are precious, beautiful, and sacred.



